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“Public Meeting to Be Held on the McHenry County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan”

The McHenry County Hazard Mitigation Committee is completing an update to the McHenry County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan. A public meeting will be held on Thursday, March 3rd to review the Plan. The public meeting will be at 1:30 p.m. at the McHenry County Mental Health Board facility at 620 Dakota Street in Crystal Lake.

The public is invited to attend this meeting and to provide comments on the Plan and natural hazard concerns in McHenry County. The Plan identifies activities that can be undertaken by both the government and the private sector to reduce health hazards, and property damage caused by floods, severe summer and winter storms, tornadoes, and other natural hazards. The updated Plan will also be available on the McHenry County website in March for review and comment.

"Hazard mitigation" means doing everything that can be done to reduce the impact of the natural hazards on people and property. It does not necessarily mean controlling floodwaters or stopping tornadoes. These hazards are natural phenomena and, in many cases, mitigation means adjusting what people do in the face of this natural activity.

McHenry County is subject to natural hazards that threaten life and health and have caused extensive property damage in the past. Again, while these hazards are acts of nature, the impacts on residents, public facilities, businesses, and private property can be reduced through hazard mitigation.

The updated McHenry County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan will be considered by the McHenry County Board and participating municipalities for adoption. With adoption McHenry County and the participating municipalities and townships will continue to be eligible for hazard mitigation grant funding through the Illinois Emergency Management Agency and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

For more information, contact McHenry County Emergency Management at 815-338-6400 or at EMA@co.mchenry.il.us.